OCT -7 2009

STATE OF ARIZONA DEPT OF INSURANCE BY

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In the Matter of:

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DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

RICHARD ERNEST DICKERSON, DBA

RICHARD ERNEST DICKERSON, DBA AFFORDABLE BAIL BONDS

Respondent.

No. 08A-054-INS CONSENT ORDER

The State of Arizona Department of Insurance ("Department") received evidence that Richard Ernest Dickerson, dba Affordable Bail Bonds ("Respondent," "Dickerson," or "Affordable") violated provisions of Title 20, Arizona Revised Statutes. Respondent wishes to resolve this matter without the commencement of formal proceedings, admits the following Findings of Fact are true, and consents to entry of the following Conclusions of Law and Order.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- At all material times, Dickerson was licensed as a resident bail bond agent,
 Arizona license number 53476, which expires on September 30, 2010.
- Dickerson's addresses of record with the Department are: c/o A-Affordable
 Bail Bonds, 364 N. 1st Avenue, Phoeriix, Arizona 85003 (business and mailing) and 2526
 W. Mobile Lane, Phoenix, Arizona 85041 (residence).

MARION JEROLD BRADSBERRY

- The Department issued Marion Jerold Bradsberry ("Bradsberry") a Bail Bond
 Agent license on November 27, 2002, license number 143316.
- 4. On or about January 2, 2007, in *State of Arizona v. Bradsberry*, Maricopa County Superior Court, CR2006-105354-001DT, the court sentenced Bradsberry to three years of probation and ordered him to pay restitution, fines and fees after a conviction for attempted promoting prison contraband, a class 3 felony, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1001,

2501, 2505, 3401, 3408, 610, 701, 702, 702.01 and 801. Bradsberry remains on probationary status.

- On or about March 7, 2007, Bradsberry entered into a Consent Order with the Department, 07A-059-INS, revoking Bradsberry's bail bond agent license due to his felony conviction.
- 6. On or about December 12, 2007, the Department received a complaint notifying the Department that, despite his license revocation, Bradsberrry continued posting bail bonds for Affordable at the Maricopa County Jail ("2007 complaint").
- 7. On or about December 20, 2007, the Department requested information regarding the 2007 complaint.
- 8. In a letter dated January 11, 2008, Marc Adair ("Adair"), attorney for Dickerson and Bradsberry, responded on behalf of Respondent to the Department's request for information. The letter acknowledges Respondent's knowledge that the Department revoked Bradsberry's license in March of 2007. It also admits that after Bradsberry's felony conviction and license revocation, Respondent continued to employ Bradsberry and allowed him to post bonds at jail.
- 9. Respondent provided the Department with records including Affordable's daily registry from April 1, 2007 through January 22, 2008, payroll records, and daily bond receipts from April 2, 2007 through December 31, 2007. These records reveal that Respondent employed Bradsberry after his felony conviction and revocation: Bradsberry received gross wages of \$22,527.50 during the period of April 2, 2007 to December 31, 2007. The bond receipts show that after Bradsberry's revocation, he continued to perform bail transactions: Bradsberry signed several forms for the "receipt for return of collateral" documenting his acceptance of the return of collateral after bail bond transactions.
- 10. On or about February 26, 2008, Department investigators conducted several examinations under oath relating to the 2007 complaint.

11. During Dickerson's Examination Under Oath, Dickerson testified that Bradsberry worked for him at Affordable from March 2007 through the end of December 2007. He stated that after the revocation of Bradsberry's license, Bradsberry's duties included writing out bond information, posting bonds at the jail, and releasing collateral. Dickerson admitted that he knew that Bradsberry was no longer licensed; nevertheless, Bradsberry was posting bonds and filling out bonds.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 12. "Employment" means working for a salary, a commission or under contract or owning, operating or controlling any business or agency that solicits services or assists in any way in dealing in bail bonds. A.R.S. § 20-340.03(B).
- 13. "Bail transaction" is defined to include solicitation and inducement, preliminary negotiation and effectuation of a contract of surety insurance and the transaction of matters subsequent thereto and arising therefrom all in connection with the release of persons arrested or confined. A.A.C. R20-6-601(B)(1).
- 14. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes the violation of any provision of A.R.S. Title 20 or any rule, subpoena or order of the director within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(2), as applied to bail bond agents under A.R.S. § 20-340.06.
- 15. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes using fraudulent, coercive or dishonest practices, or demonstrating incompetence, untrustworthiness or financial responsibility in the conduct of business in this state or elsewhere within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(8), as applied to bail bond agents under A.R.S. § 20-340.06.
- 16. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes paying a commission, service fee, brokerage or other valuable consideration to a person for selling, soliciting or negotiating insurance in this state if that person is required to be licensed and is not so

- Respondent admits the jurisdiction of the Director of Insurance, State of Arizona, and admits the foregoing Findings of Fact and consent to the entry of the foregoing Conclusions of Law and Order.
- 3. Respondent is aware of his right to notice and a hearing at which he may be represented by counsel, present evidence and examine witnesses. Respondent irrevocably waives his right to such notice and a hearing and to any court appeals relating to this Consent Order.
- 4. Respondent states that no promise of any kind or nature whatsoever, except as expressly contained in this Consent Order, were made to him to induce him to enter into this Consent Order and that he has entered into this Consent Order voluntarily.
- 5. Respondent acknowledges that the acceptance of this Consent Order by the Director is solely to settle this matter against him and does not preclude any other agency, officer, or subdivision of this state including the Department, from instituting civil or criminal proceedings as may be appropriate now or in the future.
- 6. Respondent acknowledges that this Consent Order is an administrative action that the Department will report to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC). Respondent further acknowledges that he must report this administrative action to any and all states in which he holds an insurance license and must disclose this administrative action on any license application.
- 7. Respondent acknowledges that failure to comply with the terms of this Consent Order, including but not limited to the timely payment of restitution, may result in further action by the Department, including criminal action, or referral of this matter by the Department to another federal or state agency.

10-1-2009 Date

Richard Ernest Dickerson, License No. 53476

1	COPIES of the foregoing mailed/delivered
2	this <u>7th</u> day of October, 2009, to:
3	Thomas Shedden, Administrative Law Judge Office of Administrative Hearings 1400 West Washington, Suite 101
4	Phoenix, Arizona 85007
5	Marc A. Adair
6	2916 N. Seventh Avenue, Suite 100 Phoenix, Arizona 85013-4103
7	Attorney for Respondent
8	Mary Butterfield, Assistant Director
9	Mary Kosinski, Executive Assistant for Regulatory Affairs Steve Fromholtz, Licensing Supervisor
10	Arnold Sniegowski, Investigatior Daniel Ray, Investigator
11	Department of Insurance 2910 North 44 th Street, Suite 210
12	Phoenix, Arizona 85018
13	Alyse C. Meislik
14	Assistant Attorney General 1275 West Washington Street
15	Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2926 Attorney for the Arizona Department of Insurance
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